2simple ®

2Create *A Story*

Written by Max Wainewright © thinkICT Ltd 2005

User Guide

CAS_BC_006

Contents

**Whilst this manual provides help in using 2Create A Story,
we recommend you also watch the videos provided on the CD!**

CAS_UG_006

Introduction

One of our main goals when producing software is making things as simple as possible. Whilst the original 2Create software introduced multimedia to tens of thousands of primary pupils we wanted to make something even simpler for very young learners.

2Create A Story allows pupils to make multimedia as soon as they are ready to use a mouse, keyboard and have a story to tell.

Sounds and animations can be used to bring meaning to their work, and enable them to explore their own ideas and creativity.

Saving their work in the standard Macromedia® Flash™ multimedia format (SWF) means they can share their stories with friends, family… the whole world!

Max Wainewright, Designer & Developer of 2Create A Story

System Requirements

Operating System: Windows 95/ 98 / 98SE / ME / 2000 / XP / NT (SP-3+) / Vista
Processor: Recommended Pentium II, 500MHz
Memory: Minimum 64MB RAM
Hard Drive: 60 MB min
Display: Minimum 800x600, 16 bit High Colour (Recommended 1024 x 768)
CD-ROM Drive Required for Installation
Standard Mouse, Keyboard
Printer
Speakers
Microphone

MSIs available on request.

2Create A Story is designed to work on ALL networks. You can find clear installation instructions on the CD and we provide full support on our website: www.2simple.com/support

If you need help with a specific installation, please do not hesitate to contact us via our website or email us at support@2simple.com
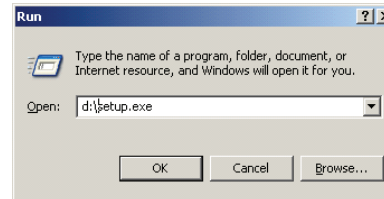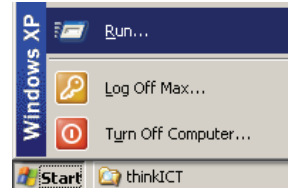
2Simple will provide MSI installations free of charge.

As networks differ from one another, we can and will help you when needed. If any of our instructions do not work, please do contact us as we want to provide accurate information and we rely on your feedback to help us get it right.

Installation

1. Put the CD in the drive

2. If nothing happens click **'Start - Run'**

3. Type **D:\setup.exe**
*(If your CD drive is drive E
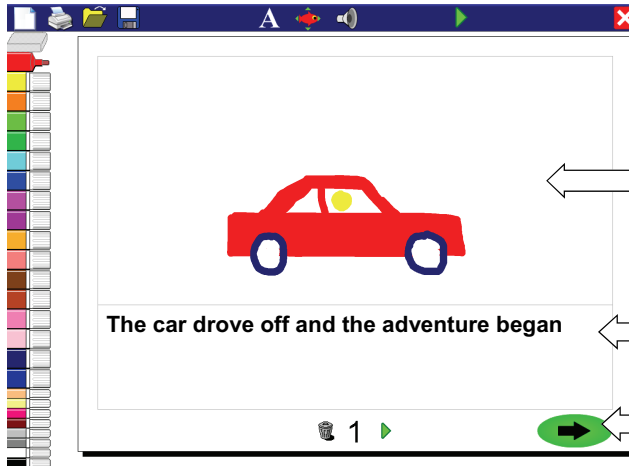Type e:\setup.exe etc)*

4. Click OK.

5. Follow the instructions on screen to complete the installation.
*This will install your software & add a link from the 'start menu' to
2Create A Story*

Getting started

1. Click **Start—Programs—2Simple Software—2Create A Story**

Draw a picture for your story

The car drove off and the adventure began

Type your text here.

Click here to go to page two

1

Add a simple bit of animation

Bring your picture to life by clicking the red fish and then choosing one of these actions:

No action- just show picture	■	↻	Spin the picture
Move up	⬆	➡	Move right
Move down	⬇	⬅	Move left
Grow	✛	✸	Shrink
Fade out			Fade in
Rock		✹	Explode
Split the picture	◄►	►◄	Join the picture

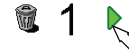Play your story and see the animation by clicking the green triangle on the blue toolbar at the top of the page.

Adding sounds to your story

You can add a sound to each page of the story by clicking the speaker on the toolbar and choosing one of the icons on the menu.
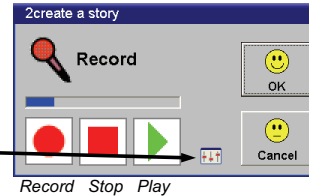
(If you just want to hear/see the current page click the triangle at the bottom of the page next to the bin)

Record your own sounds by clicking the microphone then:

Click here to set the recording levels.

2create a story

Record

OK

Cancel

Record   Stop   Play

Link to other sound files (wav or mp3) by clicking the yellow folder button and browsing for the file.

Use the on-screen keyboard to compose and record simple tunes to enhance your story.

2create a story

Record a tune

Piano   Organ   Violin

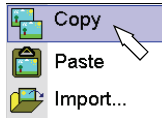Yes   No

Other buttons and features

Undo - 'undoes' the last thing you drew

Print your story. (The story will be printed with 4 pages on each piece of paper. These can be folded up to make a little book!)

Delete everything on the page.

Click the right-mouse button to bring up this menu. For this to work you must access the Teachers Options (Hold Ctrl and Shift then tap the letter 'O') click on the Tools tab and switch from 'Classic' to 'Tools' in the drop-down menu on the left. Use **Copy** and **Paste** to copy pictures from one page to another.

You can import pictures, photographs or even your ownanimated GIF files from 2Animate using the import option.
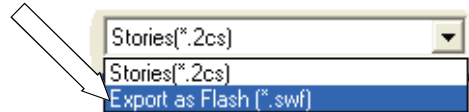
Opening, Saving and Exporting

The open and save buttons on the toolbar allow pupils to store their work. The teacher options (see pg 11) allow you to choose whether to use simplified or standard dialog boxes to do this.

Open Save

Your pupils will probably want to share their stories with other people. You may even want to publish their work on the school website. To do this you need to save (or *export*) a copy of their work in a format that can be read by other computers. 2Create A Story allows you to export stories as SWF (or Flash*) files—this is a standard way to save multimedia and should mean stories can be shared very easily!

To export as SWF just tick here….. or here… when you save a story.

☑ SWF Copy

Stories(*.2cs)

Stories(*.2cs)
Export as Flash (*.swf)

This SWF file can be emailed to a friend, added to a website, or put in a shared folder.

Reading Completed stories

You can open a story that you have saved by double clicking a 2cs file in your **My Documents** Folder. This will open it in 2Create a Story.
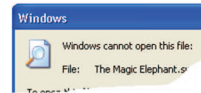
The Magic Elephant.2cs

If you have finished a story and saved it as an SWF file (see previous page) then it will open in a different program which will allow other people to enjoy reading the story—*but not change it!*

The Magic Elephant.swf

Help! I can't see SWF story file!

If nothing happens when you double click the SWF file or you get a message like one of these then either:

- Install the 2simple SWF Player from your CD
 or
- Read the appendix on page 17 which will tell you how to play SWF files in Internet Explorer

Windows — Windows cannot open this file:
File: The Magic Elephant.s

Internet Explorer
Address — The Magic Elephant
To help protect your security, computer. Click here for opti

Teacher Options (General)

Hold Ctrl and Shift then tap the letter 'O' to display the teacher options.   Ctrl + ⇧ Shift + O
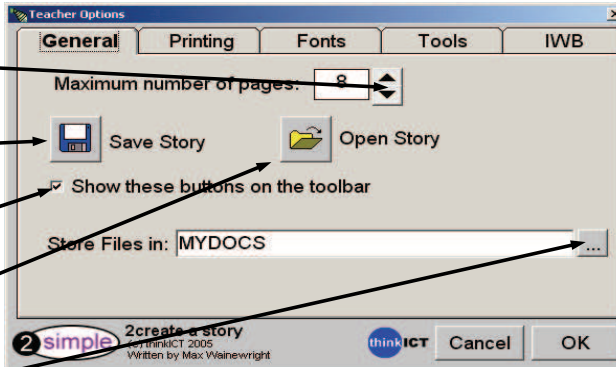
Select maximum number of pages.

Click to save story

Tick here to show these Buttons on the toolbar

Click to open a story

Click here to choose where to save files to.

Teacher Options (Printing)

Hold Ctrl and Shift then tap the letter 'O' to display the teacher options.   Ctrl + ⇧ Shift + O
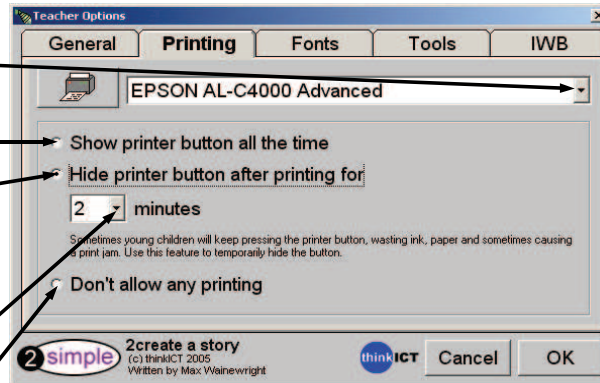
Select printer from drop-down menu.

Click to show printer button all the time.

Click to activate printer button hide option which prevents print jams by only allowing one printout within a certain time limit.

To set the time limit, click here.
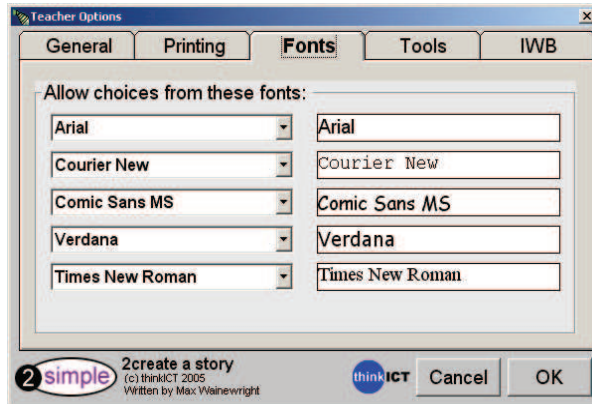
Click to prevent any printing.

Teacher Options

| General | **Printing** | Fonts | Tools | IWB |

EPSON AL-C4000 Advanced

○ Show printer button all the time

○ Hide printer button after printing for

[2 ▾] minutes

Sometimes young children will keep pressing the printer button, wasting ink, paper and sometimes causing a print jam. Use this feature to temporarily hide the button.

○ Don't allow any printing

2create a story
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Written by Max Wainewright

2simple   thinkICT   Cancel   OK

Teacher Options (Fonts)

Hold Ctrl and Shift then tap the letter 'O' to display the teacher options.　 Ctrl + ⇧ Shift + O

Choose the five default fonts that children can use to write their stories.

Select the fonts from the drop-down menus and then click OK.

Teacher Options (Tools)

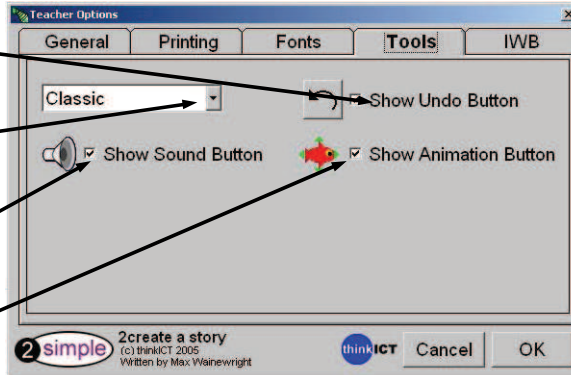Hold Ctrl and Shift then tap the letter 'O' to display the teacher options.   Ctrl + ⇧ Shift + O

Click to show Undo
Button on the main
toolbar

Choose between
Classic felt tips and
Tools.
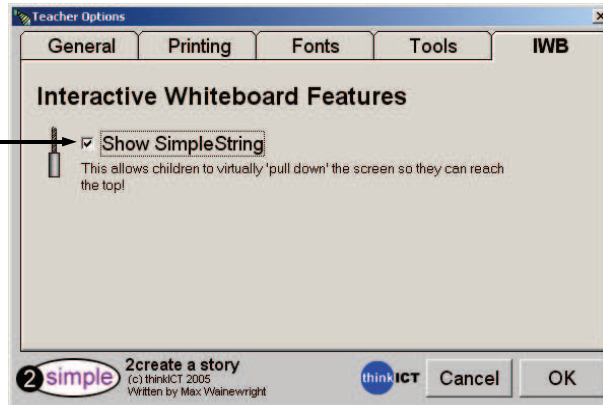
Click to show Sound
button

Click to show Animation
button

Teacher Options (Interactive Whiteboard)

Hold Ctrl and Shift then tap the letter 'O' to display the teacher options.   Ctrl + ⇧ Shift + O

Click to show Simple String which allows children to drag the screen down so that they can reach the top when working on an Interactive Whiteboard.

Using the training videos

The CD supplied contains training videos that show the process of creating a story, including videos on adding sound ("Monster Sounds") and animation ("Anna And Her Dog"). There are also teaching-focused videos that explore teacher options and exporting to other programs. In the example stories you can help Anna find her dog, visit the seaside or meet a friend in the park and play on an animated see-saw.

Once the videos have started playing you will see the program being used. To pause or rewind the video use the stop and play buttons and slider at the bottom of the screen:

 Click the red exit button to return to 2Create a story.

Why not use the videos:

To introduce the start of an activity in the ICT suite? As part of an INSET session?

As a way to remind individual pupils how to do an activity?   *To learn more!*

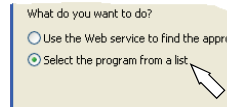## Appendix—Playing SWF files in Internet Explorer

You can play stories that have been saved as SWF files by Installing the 2simple SWF Player from your CD. If you prefer to use Internet Explorer, do the following:
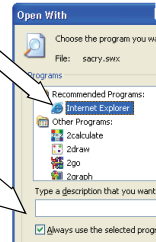
1. Double click an SWF file.

The Magic Elephant.swf

What do you want to do?

◯ Use the Web service to find the approp
⦿ Select the program from a list

2. Choose 'Select Program from a list then click 'OK'

Open With

Choose the program you war

File: sacry.swx

Programs

Recommended Programs:

Internet Explorer

3. Choose 'Internet Explorer' from the top of the list

Other Programs:

2calculate
2draw
2go
2graph

4. Click the tick 'Always use the selected pro-gram'

Type a description that you want t

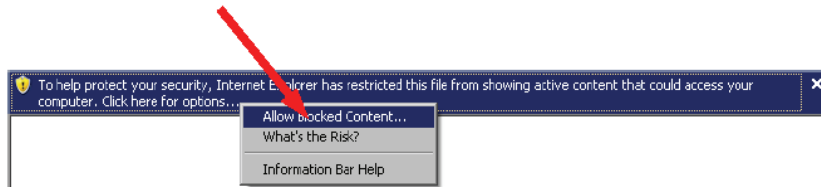5. Click '**OK'**

☑ Always use the selected program

Appendix - Avoiding a 'Blocked Content' message!

You may encounter a "blocked content" message when trying to play back a Flash file in Internet Explorer. Don't panic! To play, click here to allow blocked content (click Yes to confirm).

⚠ To help protect your security, Internet Explorer has restricted this file from showing active content that could access your computer. Click here for options... ☒

| Allow blocked Content... |
| What's the Risk? |
| Information Bar Help |

2Simple Tip:

To avoid this message continually appearing, open Internet Explorer and choose Tools and then Internet Options. Click the Advanced tab. Tick the box that says "Allow active content to run in files from my computer". (This will be under 'Security' in the list).

Copyright Notice

Contacting 2Simple

You can contact us:

For general information: info@2Simple.com

For support issues: www.2Simple.com/support or support@2Simple.com
Tel: (+44) 020 8203 1781
Fax: (+44) 020 8202 6370

You can write to us:

2Simple Software
Enterprise House
2, The Crest
Hendon, London UK
NW4 2HN

Faulty Media

Should the CD ROM develop a fault we will replace it free of charge.

About 2Simple

All our software is designed on the following principles:

Simplicity of use
The software has evolved in the classroom to meet the needs of very young pupils. It is simple to learn and simple to use. There are no 'wrong buttons' to press.

Transfer of skills
All our software has a common look and feel. It is designed to take pupils from what is familiar towards standard Windows interfaces.

Developed in the classroom for the UK curriculum
The software has been developed to meet the needs of the UK curriculum. It has been tested and refined in the classroom, and has evolved based on research and suggestions from teachers.

Video of ideas for activities
All our software comes with a large number of ideas for use and tutorials. These take the form of short videos which run on the computer and teach staff and pupils to use the software in an appropriate curriculum context.

Emphasis on creativity
Making the software simple allows pupils to focus on the content of their work. Whilst the software is powerful, it is the pupils who are creating, not the computer.

Reading age
Many pupils are held back by complex language in some software packages. Our software uses simple icons and appropriate text, ensuring reading age is not a barrier to ICT learning.

Independent use
The simplicity of the software, combined with the use of video, makes the software ideal for independent use.

2Create *A Story*

Thanks to everyone who helped make this product: Abbie, Alex, Ali, Andre, Andy, Ashley, Beatrix, Bogi, Caroline, Daniel, David, Dawn, Doyin, Edina, Elliot, Emma, Erika, Fiona, Julie, Katalin, Katie, Kriszta, Lee, Lumi, Martin, Mary, Melissa, Mikee, Nigel, Nina, Petra, Philip, Rachel, Rebecca, Sam, Sarah, Sean, Sennay, Sharon, Suzy, Sylvie, Tony & Yasi.

Max Wainewright, 2005

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